

Remarks

Claims 42-48, 56-61, 71 and 73 were pending in the subject application. Applicants have canceled claims 71 and 73, without prejudice to applicant's right to pursue claims of similar or differing scope in a continuing application. Applicants request entry of this amendment such that claims 42-48 and 56-61 will be pending.

Applicants note that claims 42-48 and 56-61 were deemed allowable in the Office Action mailed July 18, 2003. This Office Action also rejected claims 71 and 73 without prejudice, which became the subject of the Appeal proceedings. Since applicants have herein canceled claims 71 and 73, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Applicants note that claim 45 has been amended herein to correct a typographical error. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. PEPT-P06-501 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: July 26, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By Ignacio Perez de la Cruz
Ignacio Perez de la Cruz
Registration No.: 55,535
ROPES & GRAY LLP
45 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10111-0087
(212) 497-3613
(212) 497-3650 (Fax)
Attorneys/Agents For Applicant